

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

(IN FORMAT COMPLIANT WITH THE REVISED 37 CFR 1.121)

Please cancel claims 2 and 14 without prejudice.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:

one or more stations each configured to (i) receive local events ~~a signal from a local input and~~ (ii) present ~~communication channel comprising event detection~~ broadcast timing information over a shared communication channel, wherein said one or more stations are each configured to (i) present said broadcast timing information comprising (a) a first synchronous local event and (b) a last synchronous local event and (ii) share ~~said event detection~~ broadcast timing information with each of said other stations over said shared communication channel.

2. (CANCELED)

3. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus comprises a communication protocol.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ~~event detection information comprises~~ timing information is configured to distinguish between ~~for~~ a first local event and a last local event from said stations.

5. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said one or more stations is further configured to receive one or more local events.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said one or more stations comprise:

a receive module configured to receive said broadcast timing information signal; and

a transmit module coupled to said communication channel.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said one or more transmit modules is configured to present said broadcast timing information signal.

8. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said one or more stations further comprise one or more delay circuits.

9. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said one or more delay circuits comprises a receive time delay circuit.

10. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said one or more delay circuits comprises a transmit time delay circuit.

11. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein each of said one or more stations each further comprise a plurality of buffers.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus comprising:
means for (i) receiving a local events signal from a communication channel local input for each of one or more stations and (ii) presenting broadcast event timing information over a shared communication channel; and
means for sharing said broadcast event detection timing information between said stations, wherein said broadcast event timing information comprises comprising (a) a first synchronous local event and (b) a last synchronous local event shared over said shared communication channel.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for sharing event detection information comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving a signal local events from a communication channel local input for each of one or more stations;

5 (B) generating broadcast timing information in response
to said local events; and

10 (B) sharing said event-detection broadcast timing
information comprising between said stations, wherein said
broadcast timing information comprises (a) a first synchronous
local event and (b) a last synchronous local event shared over said
shared communication channel.

14. (CANCELED)

15. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, further
comprising the step of:

(C) receiving one or more local event signals.

16. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, wherein
step (B) is further configured in response to said one or more
local events.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim
13, wherein step (B) comprises the sub-steps of:

(B-1) receiving said broadcast timing information
signal; and

5 (B-2) transmitting said broadcast timing information
signal.

18. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, wherein
step (B) further comprises:

sharing said event detection information within a time
window.

19. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, wherein
step (B) further comprises:

acknowledging said event detection information.

20. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, wherein
step (B) further comprises:

determining a first and last local event.

21. (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising:

a plurality of transceiver circuits configured to receive
and transmit said broadcast timing information from said
5 communication channel to said stations through one or more serial
links.